



e-Manifest: Trucks Overview

Electronic Truck Manifest Expedites Trade and Enhances Security

In compliance with the Trade Act of 2002, the Automated Commercial Environment (ACE) e-Manifest: Trucks capability enables carriers to submit electronic truck manifests to U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) prior to a truck's arrival at a United States land border crossing. The e-Manifest: Trucks feature introduces electronic filing of manifests which offers the trade community increased efficiency by saving valuable time at the border, reducing processing time, and offering online tracking status of trips. In addition, CBP Officers are provided with consolidated information that will help them expedite legitimate trade while keeping America's borders secure.

Submitting an e-Manifest

Before reaching the border, truck carriers will ultimately be required to submit an automated manifest (e-Manifest) to CBP by using one of the following methods:

- ACE Secure Data Portal – A free, CBP-supplied web-based method for filing manifests; or
- CBP-approved Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) – There are three options:
 - Self-developed EDI Interface – A carrier develops in-house software that interfaces with CBP.
 - Application provided by a software vendor – A carrier utilizes software provided by a vendor.
 - Service provider – A carrier employs a third party to enter manifest data on their behalf.

The e-Manifest Process

Receiving the manifest information early allows CBP and other border security agencies to pre-screen the manifest through multiple checks before the truck arrives at the port. The receipt of e-Manifests enables CBP Officers to focus their efforts and inspections on high-risk commerce, thereby minimizing unnecessary delays for legitimate, low-risk commerce.

When a truck approaches the primary booth, the e-Manifest is automatically retrieved along with the matching pre-filed entries, in-bond requests, and other release declarations for the CBP Officer to view and process. The CBP Officer will either release the truck at primary, or refer the truck to secondary for further processing. Subsequently, the CBP processing results will be accessible via the ACE Secure Data Portal and/or returned to the EDI filer.

Additional e-Manifest Benefits

- Truck carriers can record account details related to drivers, trucks (conveyances), and equipment in their ACE carrier account. This eliminates a carrier's need to repetitively send these data elements via EDI or enter them via the ACE Secure Data Portal, resulting in increased efficiency and reduced errors in the manifest submission process.

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- A feature known as 'Broker Download' enables a carrier to send shipment details from the ACE e-Manifest: Trucks system to the entry filer's Automated Broker Interface (ABI) system. This communication of shipment details from carrier to entry filer will assist in the reconciliation of manifest and entry data, thereby reducing delays at the border.
- By establishing and using an ACE portal account, carriers are able to generate a wide variety of reports to evaluate and identify compliance issues and risks.

Implementation Timeframe

As of October 2005, ACE has been successfully deployed in at ports in Washington, Arizona, North Dakota and Michigan, and is continuing to be rolled out on a port-by-port basis. For further details, please reference the Federal Register Notices by clicking: http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/toolbox/about/modernization/frn_notices.xml.

Establishing an e-Manifest: Trucks Carrier Account using ACE

Step 1) Apply by sending an e-mail to the following address: ACENow@dhs.gov. You will then be prompted for additional information.

Step 2) Upon confirmation from CBP, sign and return the Power of Attorney (POA), the Terms and Conditions (T&C), and the Instructions for New Accounts to the following address:

ACE Secure Data Portal – ACE Application
U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Attn: Beauregard Building, Room A-314-3
7681 Boston Boulevard
Springfield, VA 22153

Step 3) The specified point of contact will receive an automatically generated e-mail containing a link to a temporary password. An assigned CBP Account Manager will provide a 'shared secret,' which is necessary for Portal access.

Step 4) Log on to the ACE Secure Data Portal using your temporary password and 'shared secret', answer the five 'challenge questions,' and create a new password. After entering specific company information along with a point of contact, the ACE Secure Data Portal is ready for use! You can now create manifests for ports-of-entry where e-Manifest: Trucks has been deployed.

Questions?

If you have any questions or would like to know more about ACE and e-Manifest: Trucks, please send your inquiries to: ACENow@dhs.gov or call ACE Now at 703-336-4326. For additional information on companies offering ACE Electronic Truck Manifest data processing services, please go to: http://www.cbp.gov/xp/cgov/toolbox/about/modernization/electronic_truck_manifest_info/